



**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
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 State of North Dakota  
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 Bismarck ND 58505-0500  
**ELECTIONS DIVISION**  
 (701) 328-4146  
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## Running for President and Vice President of the United States

### ☒ Officer Qualifications and Terms of Office

Only natural born citizens shall be eligible for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States who are at least 35 years of age and have resided within the United States for at least 14 years. No person constitutionally ineligible to hold the office of President shall be eligible to hold the office of Vice President. United States Constitution, Article 2, Section 1 and Amendment 12

The 4 year terms of office for President and Vice President of the United States begin at noon on January 20 following the date of election.

### ☒ Participating in the Presidential Preference Caucuses

The established political parties who have chosen to conduct a presidential preference caucus set for February 3, 2004 are:

**Republican Party**  
**Democratic-NPL Party**

A presidential preference caucus must be conducted in the manner provided in section 16.1-03-20 of the North Dakota Century Code with the exception that a political party does not have to hold presidential preference caucuses in each organized precinct. Established political parties may hold caucuses at the district, regional, or state levels, or a combination thereof. The results of an established political party's presidential preference caucus must be used when determining delegate selection to the party's national convention in the year 2004 unless the national party rules provide otherwise. NDCC §16.1-03-20

It is important to recognize that while North Dakota law does provide for a loose framework for organizing and conducting political party activities, a majority of their activities are governed by internal political party rules. These internal rules will govern all aspects of North Dakota's presidential preference caucuses in the year 2004 that are not already specified by North Dakota law.

Nothing prevents an established political party, either at the state or district levels, from adopting additional rules or modes of procedure, that are not in conflict with state law, to ensure that only qualified electors who are affiliated with the party participate in a precinct caucus.

For additional information about how North Dakota's presidential preference caucuses will be conducted in the year 2004 or how to participate as a candidate, contact North Dakota's established political parties. They include:

**North Dakota Republican Party**  
 Kenneth Karls  
 Chairman  
 PO Box 1917  
 Bismarck, ND 58502  
 (701) 255-0030  
 ndgop@btigate.com  
[www.ndgop.com](http://www.ndgop.com)

**North Dakota Democratic-NPL Party**  
 Tom Dickson  
 Chairman  
 1902 E. Divide Ave.  
 Bismarck, ND 58501  
 (701) 255-0460  
 people@demnpl.com  
[www.demnpl.com](http://www.demnpl.com)

### ☒ Running in the General Election

Whether an established political party holds a presidential preference caucus on February 3, 2004 or relies upon some other selection process recognized by the national party, the party may still nominate a candidate for President of the United States for inclusion on the November 2, 2004 General Election ballot. NDCC § 16.1-03-14

#### These are the forms for a complete filing:

1. A **Certificate of Nomination for Presidential Electors (SFN 50883)**;
2. An **Affidavit of Candidacy (SFN 52500)** for presidential and vice presidential candidates;
3. A **Statement of Interests (SFN 10172)** or a like personal disclosure statement required by the Federal Election Commission for presidential and vice presidential Candidates.

#### When and Where to File

Nominations for presidential and vice presidential candidates and their respective electors must be filed by an established political party by 4:00 p.m. on the sixtieth day before the November 2, 2004 General Election.

The deadline for filing with the **Secretary of State** is **September 3, 2004 by 4:00 p.m.** Complete filings must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State by the filing deadline.

### ☒ Running as a candidate from another National Party in the General Election

A party that has failed to establish itself and gain ballot access by the April 12, 2004\* deadline, may still nominate a presidential candidate for inclusion on the November 2, 2004 General Election ballot. The name of the nominee for president of the United States may appear on the ballot with a designation, not to exceed five words, that names the organization or political party to which the presidential candidate affiliates. The designation may not;

- falsely indicate an affiliation with or the support of any political party organized in accordance with this title
- include any substantive word or phrase that is profane
- include or resemble the name of a political party entitled to a separate column on the ballot.

NDCC §16.1-11-30 and Ch. 16.1-12-02

\*The filing deadline for the June 8, 2004 Primary Election falls on Friday, April 9. This date is a state holiday - Good Friday. Therefore, the filing deadline will move to Monday, April 12 by 4:00 p.m.

### A Complete Filing Must Include

1. A **Petition/Certificate of Nomination (SFN 2704)** containing the signatures of at least 4,000 qualified North Dakota electors;
2. A **Certificate of Nomination - Presidential Electors/ National Form (SFN 50905)**;
3. An **Affidavit of Candidacy (President and Vice President of the United States/National Form) (SFN 52500)** for each candidate;
4. A **Statement of Interests (SFN 10172)** or a like personal disclosure statement required by the Federal Election Commission for presidential and vice presidential candidates.

### Circulating and Signing a Petition/Certificate of Nomination

A Petition/Certificate of Nomination may not be circulated or signed more than 90 days before the date the petition must be filed with the Secretary of State. Therefore, candidates for President of the United States may not circulate or have a Petition/Certificate of Nomination signed before **June 5, 2004**.

### When and Where to File

Nominations for presidential candidates and their respective running mates and electors must be filed by 4:00 p.m. on the sixtieth day before the November 2, 2004 General Election.

The deadline for filing with the **Secretary of State** is **September 3, 2004 by 4:00 p.m.** Complete filings must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State by the filing deadline.

### ☒ **Running as a Write-In Candidate in the General Election**

A person who intends to be a write-in candidate for President of the United States at the November 2, 2004 General Election shall file a sworn Certificate of Write-In Candidacy with the Secretary of State by 4:00 p.m. on the 21st day before the General Election. The sworn Certificate of Write-In Candidacy must contain the complete address of the candidate and the names and complete addresses of the candidate's 3 presidential electors. A sworn certificate of acceptance signed by the candidate's presidential electors must accompany the Certificate of Write-In Candidacy. The certificate of acceptance for each elector is included as part of the Certificate of Write-In Candidacy. If the presidential candidate has a vice-presidential running mate, the name and complete address of the running mate shall be contained on the Certificate of Write-In Candidacy as well. If there is no vice-presidential running mate, the certificate shall be appropriately marked. The sworn vice-presidential certificate of acceptance is also included as part of the Certificate of Write-In Candidacy. NDCC Ch. 16.1-12-02.2

### A Complete Filing Must Include

1. A **Certificate of Write-In Candidacy President of the United States General Election (SFN 18440)**;

2. A **Statement of Interests (SFN 10172)** or a like personal disclosure statement required by the Federal Election Commission for presidential and vice presidential candidates.

### When and Where to File

The filing deadline with the **Secretary of State** is **October 12, 2004 by 4:00 p.m.** Complete filings must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State by the filing deadline.

### ☒ **Interaction with Federal Laws**

Candidates for President and Vice President of the United States are subject to the registration and financial disclosure requirements of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

Under the Federal Election Campaign Act, a candidate is subject to registration and financial obligations when the campaign exceeds \$5,000 in either contributions or expenditures.

Questions and requests for further information may be directed to the:

Federal Election Commission (FEC)  
999 E Street North West, Room 232  
Washington, D.C. 20463  
Toll Free 1-800-424-9530  
Web Site [www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov)

### ☒ **Forms**

The state forms listed above (SFN) are available from the Secretary of State's office and may also be accessed from the Secretary of State's web site and Fax-On-Demand service line.

Secretary of State  
State of North Dakota  
600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 108  
Bismarck ND 58505-0500  
Phone (701) 328-4146  
Toll free 1-800-352-0867  
Fax-On-Demand Service (701) 328-0120  
Web Site [www.state.nd.us/sec](http://www.state.nd.us/sec)